

**From:** Downey Magallanes  
**To:** [Aaron Moody](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: DRAFT -- Monuments Talking Points and Myth vs. Fact  
**Date:** Friday, December 01, 2017 7:35:43 AM  
**Attachments:** [attachedFile.html](#)  
[TALKING POINTS FOR MONUMENT REVIEW UPDATED.docx](#)

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These are not final but wanted to run by you all?

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Magallanes, Downey" <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** November 30, 2017 at 11:23:54 PM EST  
**To:** "Rigas, Laura" <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, "Wynn, Todd" <[todd\\_wynn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov)>, "Newell, Russell" <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>, John Tanner <[john\\_tanner@ios.doi.gov](mailto:john_tanner@ios.doi.gov)>, John Bockmier <[john\\_bockmier@ios.doi.gov](mailto:john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov)>, Daniel Jorjani <[daniel\\_jorjani@ios.doi.gov](mailto:daniel_jorjani@ios.doi.gov)>, Todd Willens <[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)>, "Williams, Timothy" <[timothy\\_williams@ios.doi.gov](mailto:timothy_williams@ios.doi.gov)>, "Chambers, Micah" <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject: Re: DRAFT -- Monuments Talking Points and Myth vs. Fact**

My edits. Think the points need to be reordered up front

On Thu, Nov 30, 2017 at 3:17 PM, Rigas, Laura <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Sorry, all. I was using the wrong version for the talkers...  
Attached is the one Heather and Russ have cleared. Any edits from others??  
We will send a final tomorrow am in PDF for you to send around to stakeholders?  
Thanks,?  
L

*Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell?  
@Interior?*

On Thu, Nov 30, 2017 at 2:50 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

My edits in track changes.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior?

@DOIPressSec?

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)?

On Thu, Nov 30, 2017 at 2:45 PM, Wynn, Todd <[todd\\_wynn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

(b) (5) DPP [REDACTED]. Nothing to add. Please let me know when it is finished and I can share.?

On Thu, Nov 30, 2017 at 2:26 PM, Swift, Heather

<[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I'm sending my version in a few if you want to work off mine.

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior?

@DOIPressSec?

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)?

On Thu, Nov 30, 2017 at 2:11 PM, Rigas, Laura

<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi all --?

Attached please find the talking points and myth vs. fact sheet for the Monument Review. Please note that they are at their max word length (to keep them on 2 and 1 pages, respectively), so let me know what should come out if you are adding.?

Also, they do not include the Utah-specific information, which will be announced on Monday. This is a great backgrounder for the groups who will be part of the stakeholder call tomorrow as well as any other friends you deem appropriate.?

Let me know by COB tonight if you have any edits as we need to start sending them around tomorrow. Please do NOT share this version yet.?

Thank you,?

L

*Laura Keehner Rigas*  
*Communications Director*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*(202) 897-7022 cell?*  
*@Interior?*

--

Todd M. Wynn

Director of the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

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*NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

--

Downey Magallanes

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## TALKING POINTS FOR ANTIQUITIES ACT/MONUMENT REVIEW

**\*Correcting Past Overreach\***

**\*Increasing Public Access\***

**\*Giving Local Communities a Voice by Restoring Traditional Uses\***

**\*Continuing Protection Where Warranted\***

### Topline Message:

- These monument modifications will continue to protect objects and prioritize public access, infrastructure upgrades, repair, and maintenance, traditional use, tribal cultural use, and hunting and fishing rights.

### Five Key Points:

- *Corrects Past Overreach*

- The President is righting past overreach. The Act requires that only objects of significance are designated, within the smallest area compatible, and we are going to follow the law.

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- *Prioritizes Infrastructure Upgrades*

- The Trump Administration will remove restrictions that impede needed infrastructure improvements, such as upgrading restrooms, visitor centers, and trails, all of which serve to protect the objects in question.

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(b)(5) DPP [Redacted]

- *Continues Protection Where Warranted*
  - The Trump Administration is continuing to protect public land, including keeping parts of monuments to protect objects of significance within the smallest areas compatible.
    - The Trump Administration is *not* going to drill in public parks
    - The Trump Administration is *not* going to sell public lands
    - The Trump Administration *will* protect objects in the “smallest area compatible” with the proper care of the objects to be protected.

#### **Additional Messaging:**

##### ***Righting Past Overreach, since past Presidents have not followed the law***

- The Antiquities Act requires that objects be of significance, the area reserved to protect the objects is the smallest area compatible, and that monuments be designated on federal land only.

(b)(5) DPP [Redacted]

- Smallest area compatible:
  - The first monument designated under the act was Devils Tower at almost 1,200. Several monuments designated since 1996 have been millions of acres.
  - President Obama established or expanded monuments on more than 550 million acres of land and water, more than any other President.
- On federal land:
  - Monument boundaries often encompass or are adjacent to private land, and in the case of the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument, the expansion contained 38% private land within the external boundary.

##### ***Prioritize Infrastructure Improvements***

- It is common for monument designations to prevent construction of future roads and other facilities, making the land inaccessible for use.
- Infrastructure enhancements enrich the people’s experience on our public lands far more than a designation written and signed in Washington, D.C.

### *Increasing public access that has been restricted by monument designations*

- Advocates often aim for a monument's eventual designation as a National Park by Congress, and National Parks do not allow hunting and can restrict motorized access.
  - Many National Parks were first designated as ~~n~~National ~~m~~Monuments. Examples are Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Glacier Bay, Grand Canyon, Great Sand Dunes, Joshua Tree, Petrified Forest, Saguaro, and Zion.
- Roads closures
  - Restrictions on vegetative management and maintenance activities have led to poorly maintained roads and even closures, for example in Cascade Siskiyou and Rio Grande Del Norte. Roads have also been intentionally been closed as part of management plans in order to protect objects.

### *Restoring the local voice by allowing the traditional uses conducted on the land prior to designation to occur.*

- Monument designations have put land "off limits" for traditional multiple-uses like ranching, timber harvest, fishing, resource development, infrastructure upgrades, and motorized recreation.
- Designating too much land for a national monument is harmful to the local tax base via the elimination of grazing, timber and mineral leases, as well as the elimination of hunting and fishing access.
- Monuments should not be designated to prevent rather than protect.
  - For example, subpoenaed emails and a Congressional investigation showed that Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument (GSENM) was designated to stop a Coal project.

### *Continuing to protect public land*

- These lands are already federal which therefore carry protection or have protective land designations.
- GSENM has over 800,000 of Wilderness Study Areas and Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) has almost 450,000 of Wilderness Study Areas or Wilderness.
- (b)(5) DPP [REDACTED]

Comment [MDP1]: (b)(5) DPP [REDACTED]

### **Background on the Antiquities Act:**

- The Antiquities Act calls for the President to designate objects such as "historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest.

- The Act mandates that the limits of the parcels of land reserved as National Monuments “shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected”, and be designated on federal land.
- Despite this clear directive, objects have been extended to include landscape areas, biodiversity, view sheds, and ‘smallest area’ has become the exception and not the rule.
- Objects have oftentimes been selected only to fill in pre-identified boundaries that mirror failed Congressional attempts to designate areas under protective designations.
- Monument boundaries often encompass or are adjacent to private land, and in one case a monument expansion contained 38% private land within the external boundary.
- The most controversial monuments were designated or expanded in the waning days of a presidency after partisan efforts to designate the land stalled in Congress. This is a clear violation of the will of the People and overuse of executive power.
- Presidents have reduced the size of monuments around 19 times in the past. The most significant reduction was in 1915 under President Woodrow Wilson, when he halved Mount Olympus National Monument (it has since become a National Park).
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- On April 26, 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed Executive Order 13792, entitled “Review of Designations under the Antiquities Act.”
- President Trump’s executive order limited the review to monuments designated after January 1, 1996 and over 100,000 acres in size, or monuments that the Secretary deems to have been created without adequate public input.
- (b)(5) DPP [REDACTED]
- The order directed the Secretary to submit an interim report on Bears Ears National Monument within 45 days, which was delivered to the White House on June 10, 2017.
- The order directed the Secretary to submit a report on all other monuments under review within 120 days, August 24, 2017.

#### **Background on the Monument Review Process:**

- The Secretary opened up of a formal comment period for the review. This is the first time EVER that a formal comment period was open on regulations.gov for national monuments designated under the Antiquities Act.
- (b)(5) DPP [REDACTED]
- Interior also established a formal public comment period for the monument review. This is the first time ever a formal comment period occurred for Antiquities Act-designated National Monuments.